

A-Powered Red Missile Blew Up, Writer Says

LONDON (AP)—Former the weapon in time for the

Premier Khrushchev's vaunted October revolution anniversary secret weapon blew up in 1960, that year.

killing Marshal Mitrofan I. Nedelin and 300 others, the Guardian said today. The Russians announced Oct. 25, 1960, that Nedelin had been killed in an air accident.

The select weapon about which Khrushchev boasted was a missile with a nuclear propellant, Victor Zorza, Communist affairs expert of the Guardian, reported. Penkovsky's secret reports are being published next month. Zorza apparently got an advance look at the reports, which were made to British intelligence and the U.S. General Intelligence Agency.

Quoting secret reports of Oleg Penkovsky, a Russian sentenced to death in 1963 for spying for the West, Zorza said: Zorza said Penkovsky also reported that Khrushchev's bark was worse than his bite during the Berlin crisis of 1961.

"The countdown went according to plan, but the new missile failed to leave the ground. The observers waited for some 20 minutes, then came out of the shelter. At this point the missile exploded, killing 300 people, among them the commander-in-chief of the Soviet missile forces, Marshal Nedelin." Penkovsky reported that Soviet military plans were well advanced, with East German troops manning the first line of defense, if the West attacked after the signing of a peace treaty with East Germany. Soviet troops were in the second line. The Soviet idea, Zorza

The Guardian account said the accident occurred in the fall of 1960 as scientists rushed to test to fight if it comes to that."

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